

# **New Jersey Board of Public Utilities**

### PRESS RELEASE

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## New Jersey takes the ENERGY STAR® Change a Light Pledge

New Jersey's Clean Energy Program<sup>TM</sup> encourages residents to replace 20,000 light bulbs with ENERGY STAR models

(NEWARK, NJ) – The New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (NJBPU) today announced they will work with New Jersey's *CleanPower Community Partners* and residents statewide to replace 20,000 light bulbs with ENERGY STAR qualified bulbs by December 31, 2007, as part of this year's ENERGY STAR® *Change a Light, Change the World* lighting campaign.

For Garden State residents, this means taking the ENERGY STAR Change a Light Pledge to change-out five incandescent light bulbs with ENERGY STAR qualified bulbs. To help achieve this goal, approximately 900 retailers across New Jersey are offering special discounts on ENERGY STAR qualified lighting from September to November.

"Most people are sensitive to the need to protect our environment, but many don't know where to start," said NJBPU President Jeanne M. Fox. "Participating in New Jersey's Change a Light Pledge is a simple way residents can begin to help reduce energy usage and lower greenhouse gas emissions. It's one of many ways New Jersey residents can be a part of Governor Corzine's plan to use energy more wisely in New Jersey."

If all the households in New Jersey changed just five incandescent light bulbs to ENERGY STAR qualified bulbs, New Jersey would prevent more than 3.5 million tons of greenhouse gas emissions over the lifetime of the bulbs. That is the equivalent of removing nearly 600,000 cars from New Jersey's roadways.

ENERGY STAR qualified bulbs use 75 percent less energy than standard lighting, last up to 10 times longer, prevent more than 400 pounds of greenhouse gas emissions and save \$30 or more in energy costs over each bulb's lifetime.

The ENERGY STAR *Change a Light, Change the World Campaign* is a national call-to-action from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), and U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to encourage every individual to help change the world, one light—and one energy-saving step—at a time. As part of the campaign, the ENERGY STAR Change a Light Pledge is a way for individuals to commit to being more energy efficient by switching the most frequently used lights in their home to an ENERGY STAR qualified one.

To highlight the national campaign, New Jersey is participating in the ENERGY STAR Change a Light Bus Tour. The tour began on Wednesday October 3, 2007, when the EPA's clean diesel engine bus left Los Angeles, stopping at special events hosted by ENERGY STAR partners in nine other cities over 20 days. The bus will stop in Maplewood, New Jersey, on Thursday, October 18.

So far, the following communities have signed on to promote and educate residents and businesses about the ENERGY STAR Change a Light Pledge: City of Hoboken, Basking Ridge/Community Green, Maplewood Environmental Advisory Committee, Trenton/NJ SYNOD, Cape May City, City of Long Branch, Township of Montclair, City of Orange Township, Hudson County, Rowan University, Borough of Lindenwold, Borough of Belmar, Red Bank, Middlesex County, City of Summit, Township of West Orange, Atlantic County Utilities Authority, South Orange Energy Policy Committee and Morristown/Unity Learning Environments.

For a list of participating retailers and to take the ENERGY STAR Change a Light Pledge, visit <a href="https://www.njcleanenergy.com/cal">www.njcleanenergy.com/cal</a> or call 1-866-NJSMART (1-866-657-6278).

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#### About the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (NJBPU)

The New Jersey Board of Public Utilities is a state agency and regulatory authority mandated to ensure safe, adequate, and proper utility services at reasonable rates for New Jersey customers. Critical services regulated by the NJBPU include natural gas, electricity, water, wastewater, telecommunications and cable television. The Board has general oversight responsibility for monitoring utility service, responding to consumer complaints, and investigating utility accidents. To find out more about the NJBPU, visit our web site at www.bpu.state.nj.us

### About the New Jersey Clean Energy Program TM

New Jersey's **Clean Energy** Program<sup>TM</sup>, established on January 22, 2003, in accordance with the Electric Discount and Energy Competition Act (EDECA), provides financial and other incentives to the State's residential customers, businesses and schools that install high-efficiency or renewable energy technologies, thereby reducing energy usage, lowering customers' energy bills and reducing environmental impacts. The program is authorized and overseen by the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (NJBPU), and its website is <a href="https://www.njcleanenergy.com">www.njcleanenergy.com</a>.